

St. Thaddeus the Holy Apostle of the Seventy, and King Abgar of Edessa

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St. Thaddeus the Holy Apostle of the Seventy - Commemorated on August 21 (detail from a larger icon which includes that of King Abgar below, from the 10th Century, taken from: <http://days.pravoslavie.ru/Images/im2077.htm>)

“Saint Thaddeus, Apostle of the Seventy, was by descent a Hebrew, and he was born in the Syrian city of Edessa. The holy Apostle Thaddeus of the Seventy must be distinguished from St Jude, also called Thaddeus or Levi (June 19), who was one of the Twelve Apostles.

When he came to Jerusalem for a feastday, he heard the preaching of John the Forerunner. After being baptized by him in the Jordan, he remained in Palestine. He saw the Savior, and became His follower. He was chosen by the Lord to be one of the Seventy Disciples, whom He sent by twos to preach in the cities and places where He intended to visit (Luke. 10: 1).

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